



DRUG ABUSE THE EFFECT ON NIGERIA YOUTH

^{*1}Ibrahim Friday Sule, ²Yusuf Yahaya Miya and ³Lucas Nitta Nelson

¹Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Department of Biological Sciences, Bauchi Nigeria

²Galaxy College of Health Technology Bauchi, Nigeria

³Federal University Kashere, Barri, Gombe, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

Drug abuse is one of the major challenges that poses serious challenge on youth today. The study will concentrate on the effect of drug abuse on Nigerian youths with specific focus on KUJE, Abuja. However, the study recommends that a collective punishment and disciplinary approach is necessary by both parastatals within the country bodies on public enlightenment and also, parents should make sure that their ward/children are enlightened on drug abuse and its implications especially among students.

Keywords: Drug abuse, Nigerian, Students, Punishment, Discipline.

INTRODUCTION

Drug is one of the most commonly used substance by both young and old, which are mainly taken to cure sicknesses and to make life healthy; somehow, their efficacy is being abused, among the younger group (Abel, E. L, 1980). The drugs are used inappropriately, causing serious health challenges. Abuse also causes individuals to do the following: lack of concentration on academic work and memory loss. While Lewinsohn (2007) defines a drug as any product other than food or water that affects the way people feel, think, see, and behave. It is a substance that due to its chemical nature affects physical, mental and emotional functioning. It can be administered through chewing, inhaling, smoking, drinking, rubbing on the skin or injection (Abiodun *et al.*, 1994; Achebe, C. 1983).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Data collection and instrument

These are the tools or methods used in getting data from respondents. In this study, questionnaires and interview are research instruments used. Questionnaire is the main research instrument used for the study to gather necessary data from the sample respondents. The questionnaire is

structured type and provides answers to the research questions and hypotheses therein. Questionnaire was used with appropriate data coding, tables, with a suitable analysis accordingly. One hundred (100) will be represented by 100% for easy analysis of the responses. Chi – square and Correlation as statistical techniques was used in testing of hypotheses in order to ascertain the relationship involved in the research.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section deals with the presentation and analysis of the result obtained from questionnaires. The data gathered were presented according to the order in which they were arranged in the research questions, sample percentage and pie charts were used to analyze the demographic information of the respondents while the chi square test was adopted to test the research hypothesis. Table 1 above shows the gender distribution of the respondents used for this study. Out of the total number of 100 respondents, 65 respondents which represent 65.0 percent of the population are male. 35 which represents 35.0 percent of the population is female. Table 2 shows the age grade of the respondents used for this study. Out of the total number of 100 respondents, 15 respondents which represent 15.0 percent of the population are between 20-30 years. 10 respondents which represent 10.0 percent of the population

*Corresponding Author: Mr. Ibrahim Friday Sule, Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Department of Biological Sciences, Bauchi Nigeria, Email: sulefriday1@gmail.com

are between 31-40years. 25respondents which represent 25.0percent of the population are between 41-50years.20respondents which represent 20.0percent of the population are between 51-60years while the remaining 30respondents which represent 30.0percent of the population are above 60years.

Table 1. Gender of respondents.

	Gender	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	65	65.0	65.0	65.0
	Female	35	35.0	35.0	35.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

Source: field survey, September, 2016.

Table 2. Age range of respondents.

	Age range	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	20-30years	15	15.0	15.0	15.0
	31-40years	10	10.0	10.0	10.0
	41-50years	25	25.0	25.0	25.0
	51-60years	20	20.0	20.0	20.0
	above 60years	30	30.0	30.0	30.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

Source: field survey, September, 2016.

Table 3. Educational background of respondents.

	Educational background	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	FSLC	20	20.0	20.0	20.0
	WASSCE/GCE/NECO	25	25.0	25.0	25.0
	OND/HND/BSC	35	35.0	35.0	35.0
	MSC/PGD/PHD	15	15.0	15.0	15.0
	Others	5	5.0	5.0	5.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

Source: field survey, September, 2016.

Table 4. Years of experience.

	Experience	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0-2years	30	30.0	30.0	30.0
	3-5years	15	15.0	15.0	15.0
	6-8years	20	20.0	20.0	20.0
	9-11years	15	15.0	15.0	15.0
	12-13years	10	10.0	10.0	10.0
	above 13years	10	10.0	10.0	10.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

Source: field survey, September, 2016.

Table 3 shows the educational background of the respondents used for this study. Out of the total number of 100 respondents, 20 respondents which represent 20.0percent of the population are FSLC holders. 25 which represent 25.0percent of the population are SSCE/GCE/WASSCE holders. 35 which represent

35.0percent of the population are OND/HND/BSC holders. 15 which represent 15.0percent of the population are MSC/PGD/PHD holders while the remaining 5 which represent 5.0percent of the population had other type of educational qualifications. Table 4 above shows the years of experience in the construction sector of respondents used for this study. 30 which represent 30.0percent of the population have 0-2years experience in the construction sector.15 which represent 15.0percent of the population

have 3-5years experience in the construction sector. 20 which represent 20.0percent of the population have 6-8years experience in the construction sector 15 which represent 15.0percent of the population have 9-11years of experience in the construction sector.10 which represent 10.0percent of the population have 12-13years of experience in the construction sector while the remaining10 which represent 10.0percent of the population have more than 13years of experience in the construction sector.

Table 5. Drug abuse has significantly affected Nigerian Youths.

	Drug abuse	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	30	30.0	30.0	30.0
	Agree	42	42.0	42.0	42.0
	Undecided	10	10.0	10.0	10.0
	Disagree	10	10.0	10.0	10.0
	Strongly disagree	8	8.0	8.0	8.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

Source: field survey, September 2016.

Table 6. Drug abuse is the catalyst behind the rate of school dropout in most tertiary institutions in Nigeria.

	Drug abuse	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	25	25.0	25.0	25.0
	Agree	32	32.0	32.0	32.0
	Undecided	13	13.0	13.0	13.0
	Disagree	15	15.0	15.0	15.0
	Strongly disagree	15	15.0	15.0	15.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

Source: field survey, September, 2016.

Table 5 shows the responses of respondents if drug abuse has significantly affected Nigerian Youths. 30 respondents representing 30.0percent strongly agreed that drug abuse has significantly affected Nigerian Youths 42 respondents representing 42.0percent agreed that drug abuse has significantly affected Nigerian Youths 10 respondents representing 10.0 percent were undecided 10 respondents representing 10.0percent disagreed that drug abuse has significantly affected Nigerian Youths while the remaining8 respondents representing 8.0percent strongly disagreed that drug abuse has significantly affected Nigerian Youths.

Table 6 show the responses of respondents that drug abuse is the catalyst behind the rate of school dropout in most tertiary institutions in Nigeria 25 of the respondents representing 25.0percent strongly agree that drug abuse is the catalyst behind the rate of school dropout in most tertiary institutions in Nigeria 32 of the respondents representing 32.0percent agree that drug abuse is the catalyst behind the rate of school dropout in most tertiary

institutions in Nigeria 13 of the respondents representing 13.0percent were undecided. 15 of the respondents representing 15.0percent disagree that drug abuse is the catalyst behind the rate of school dropout in most tertiary institutions in Nigeria while the remaining 15 of the respondents representing 15.0percent strongly disagree that drug abuse is the catalyst behind the rate of school dropout in most tertiary institutions in the country

CONCLUSION

Based on the responses from the respondents the study found out the following: Drug abuse has significant effect on human health. Drug abuse has caused a lot of friction among the victim and the family member. Drugs has role to play in the rate of crime in KUJE local government area. Drug abuse is the catalyst behind the rate of school dropout in most tertiary institutions in Nigeria. The rate of drug usage by youths has increased overtime in Nigeria. The study therefore concluded that the over usage among youths in Nigeria has a negative effect on their health.

Crime rate in Nigeria is on the increase due to the addiction to drugs. Given the magnitude and detrimental effects of drug abuse on youths personality, the need for effective and far-reaching measures to remedy the situation arises. These measures include, first and foremost, conducting comprehensive studies on drug abuse and related issues in youths with a view to obtaining facts and figures to be used in guiding the process of controlling the abuse in question.

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